

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: ESSEX COMMUNICATIONS, INC., d/b/a ELEC COMMUNICATIONS	DOCKET NOS. TCU-00-34 WRU-00-48-3422 TF-00-144 <hr/> CERTIFICATE NO. 0226
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CERTIFICATE

(Issued September 29 , 2000)

On June 5, 2000, Essex Communications, Inc., d/b/a eLEC Communications (Essex), filed an application for issuance of a certificate of public convenience and necessity, pursuant to Iowa Code § 476.29 (1999), stating its intention to provide resold and facilities-based local exchange services in all exchanges in Iowa. Essex stated that it would initially provide service in the service territory of Qwest Corporation, f/k/a U S WEST Communications, Inc., and Iowa Telecommunications Services, Inc., d/b/a Iowa Telecom, successor to GTE Midwest Incorporated, and concurs with the exchange service area maps on file with the Board as they are today and as they may be changed in the future. The exchanges of these two companies became the service territories covered by the certificate application.

Essex filed a tariff on June 5, 2000, identified as TF-00-144. An order granting Essex's application, approving its concurrence in Qwest's and Iowa Telecom's maps,

approving waivers, and approving the tariff is being issued simultaneously with this certificate.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

This certificate of public convenience and necessity, issued pursuant to Iowa Code § 476.29(1) (1999), authorizes Essex Communications, Inc., d/b/a eLEC Communications, to furnish local telephone service in the exchanges as shown by its tariffs as currently and subsequently approved.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary, Deputy

/s/ Diane Munns

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 29th day of September, 2000.